

WE CLAIM:

- Mutuals*
1. A method of forming a CMOS sidewall spacer, comprising
the steps of:

forming a PMOS transistor gate structure on a n-type
region of a semiconductor substrate;
 - 10 forming a NMOS transistor gate structure on a p-type
region of said semiconductor substrate;
 - 15 forming sidewall structures adjacent to said NMOS
transistor gate structure and said PMOS transistor gate
structure; and
 - 20 etching said sidewall structure adjacent to said NMOS
transistor gate structure such that the width of the
sidewall structure adjacent to said NMOS transistor gate
structure is less than the width of the sidewall
structure adjacent to said PMOS transistor gate
structure.
 - 25 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said etching of said
sidewall structure is an anisotropic etch.
 - 30 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said sidewall structure is
a material selected from the group consisting of silicon
nitride, silicon oxide, and silicon oxynitride.

4. A method for forming CMOS sidewall spacers, comprising
the steps of:

5 providing a semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity type with a region of a second conductivity type;

10 forming a gate dielectric on said semiconductor substrate;

forming a conductive layer on said gate dielectric;

15 etching said conductive layer and said gate dielectric to form a first transistor gate stack with an upper surface on said semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity and a second transistor gate stack with an upper surface on said region of said semiconductor substrate of a second conductivity type;

20 forming at least one first sidewall structure of a first width adjacent to said second transistor gate stack; and

25 forming at least one second sidewall structure of a second width adjacent to said first transistor gate stack wherein said second width is less than said first width.

30 5. The method of claim 4 where said forming at least one first sidewall structure of a first width comprises:

forming a sidewall film over said semiconductor substrate; and

5 etching said sidewall film using an anisotropic etch such that all of said sidewall film is removed from said upper surface of said first transistor gate stack and a portion of said sidewall film is left adjacent to said second transistor gate stack.

10 6. The method of claim 5 where the sidewall film is silicon nitride, silicon oxide, or silicon oxynitride.

15 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said anisotropic etch is a plasma etch.

20 *Claim 8*
8. The method of claim 4 where said forming at least one second sidewall structure of a second width comprises:

providing a first transistor gate stack with at least one adjacent sidewall film of a first width;

masking said second transistor gate stack using a source drain implant mask; and

25 etching said sidewall film of a first width adjacent to said first transistor gate stack.

9. A method of forming a CMOS sidewall spacer method comprising the steps of:

providing a semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity type with a region of a second conductivity type;

forming a gate dielectric on said semiconductor substrate;

10 forming a conductive layer on said gate dielectric;

15 etching said conductive layer and said gate dielectric to form a first transistor gate stack with an upper surface on said semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity and a second transistor gate stack with an upper surface on said region of said semiconductor substrate of a second conductivity type;

20 forming a sidewall film over said semiconductor substrate;

25 etching said sidewall film using an anisotropic etch such that all of said sidewall film is removed from said upper surface of said first transistor gate stack and said upper surface of said second transistor gate stack, wherein a plurality of sidewall structures of a first width are formed adjacent to said first transistor gate stack and said second transistor gate stack;

30 masking said second transistor gate stack with a photoresist pattern used for source drain implantation;

etching said sidewalls of a first width adjacent to said
first transistor gate stack thereby forming sidewalls of
a second width adjacent to said first transistor gate
stack wherein said second width is less than said first
width.

5 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said sidewall film is
silicon nitride, silicon oxide, or silicon oxynitride.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein said anisotropic etch
is a plasma etch.

15 12. The method of claim 9 wherein said first
conductivity type is p-type.

13. A CMOS integrated circuit comprising:

a semiconductor substrate of a first conductivity type
with a region of a second conductivity type;

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a first transistor gate stack on said semiconductor
substrate of a first conductivity;

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a second transistor gate stack on said region of said
semiconductor substrate of a second conductivity type;

sidewalls of a first width adjacent to said second
transistor gate stack; and

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sidewalls of a second width adjacent to said first
transistor gate stack wherein said second width is less
than said first width.

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14. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 13 wherein said
first conductivity type is p-type.

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15. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 13 wherein said
first and second transistor gate stacks comprise a
dielectric layer adjacent to a conductive layer.

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16. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 14 wherein said
dielectric layer is silicon oxide, silicon oxynitride or
silicon nitride.

17. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 14 wherein
said conductive layer is doped silicon or a metal.

18. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 13 wherein said sidewalls of a first width is silicon nitride, silicon oxide, or silicon oxynitride.

5 19. The CMOS integrated circuit of claim 13 said sidewalls of a second width is silicon nitride, silicon oxide, or silicon oxynitride.

